REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending. Claims 1-4 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Specification, Abstract, Title and Claims

The Specification, the Abstract, the Title and Claims were objected to for containing various informalities. Applicants have amended the Specification, the Abstract, the Title and Claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions and to correct various informalities. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraph. Applicants have amended the claims to correct the informalities identified by the Examiner. Applicants further submit that claims 1-4, as amended, do comply with the enablement requirement of 112, first paragraph. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Mohan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,551,046). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites, in part, a buffer allocation method supporting a consistency maintenance policy in a shared disk-based multi-DBMS which includes calculating a required buffer locking mode based on a scheme mode to buffer lock mode matrix (SMTBM).

In contrast, Mohan discloses a method for locking data resourse in a shared data system that uses a P-Lock and an L-Lock to achieve a first mode X, denoting updating of a data resource and a second mode S, denoting reading of the data source. As described in the background of Applicants' specification, the PL lock is not the same as the invention recited in claim 1. Specifically, the PL lock mode creates two distinct states, X and S, whereas the present invention recited in claim 1 creates four states WS, WX, S, and X.

Claim 1 further recites that the detection-based consistency maintenance scheme and the avoidance-based consistency maintenance scheme are integrated in a single procedure to interwork with each other. As described in the background of Applicants' specification, the PL lock is a detection based scheme, it is not an avoidance based scheme. Therefore, since

Mohan fails to disclose an aviodance based scheme, Mohan fails to teach or suggest that the detection-based consistency maintenance scheme and the avoidance-based consistency maintenance scheme are integrated in a single procedure to interwork with each other.

Accordingly, Mohan fails to teach, or even suggest, a buffer allocation method supporting a consistency maintenance policy in a shared disk-based multi-DBMS which includes calculating a required buffer locking mode based on SMTBM, as recited in claim 1.

Claims 3 and 4 are believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 since claims 3 and 4 recite similar features to the features of claim 1 discussed above and claims 3 and 4 recite a buffer lock compatibility matrix and a buffer lock revocation matrix, respectively.

Claim 2 is believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of its dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.
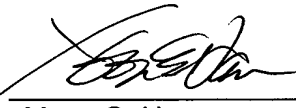
Conclusion

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 6, 2006
Attachment: Substitute Specification

FIG. 1

(PRIOR ART)

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┌─────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│                     SYSTEM                         │
│                                                    │
│  11 ─┤ ┌──────────────────┐                        │
│      │ │      DBMS         │                        │
│  12 ─┤ ├──────────────────┤   ┌──────────────────┐ │
│      │ │   FILE MANAGER    │◄─►│ LOCKING MANAGER  │─┤ 17
│  13 ─┤ ├──────────────────┤   └──────────────────┘ │
│      │ │  BUFFER MANAGER   │                        │
│      │ └──────────────────┘                        │
│                ▲                                   │
│                ▼                                   │
│  14 ─┤ ┌──────────────────┐                        │
│      │ │     BUFFER        │────┐                   │
│      │ └──────────────────┘    │                   │
│                                ▼                   │
│  ┌──────────────────┐   ┌──────────────────┐      │
│  │  STORAGE DEVICE   │   │       LOG         │      │
│  └──────────────────┘   └──────────────────┘      │
│          15                     16                 │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
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